ROBERT S. BEHL et al. Application No.: 09/663,048 Page 2

a first array of electrodes mounted on the shaft to shift between a retracted configuration and a deployed configuration having a concave face; and

a second array of electrodes mounted on the shaft at a location spaced-apart proximally from first array of electrodes, wherein the second electrode array shifts between a retracted and a deployed configuration having a concave face;

wherein the concave face of the first array faces the concave face of the second array when the arrays are deployed.

(Amended) A method for treating a treatment region in tissue, said method comprising:

deploying a first array of electrodes in tissue on one side of the treatment region, wherein said first electrode array has a concave face;

deploying a second array of electrodes in tissue along an axis with the first array on another side of the treatment region, wherein said second electrode array has a concave face and wherein the concave face of the first electrode array faces the concave face of the second electrode array when said arrays are deployed; and

applying electrical current between the first and second electrode arrays.

(Amended) A method as in any of claims 16-18 or 19, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of liver, lung, kidney, pancreas, stomach, uterus, and spleen.

(Amended) A method as in any of claims 16-18 or 19, wherein electrical current is applied at a frequency in the range from 300 kHz to 1.2 MHz.

24. (Amended) A method as in any of claims 16-18 or 19, wherein applying electrical current comprises coupling one pole of a radiofrequency power supply to the first electrode array and another pole of the radiofrequency power supply to the second electrode array and energizing the power supply.

ROBERT S. BEHL et al. Application No.: 09/663,048 Page 3

25. (Amended) A method as in any of claims 16-18 or 19, wherein the first and second electrode arrays each span a planar area in the range between 3 cm<sup>2</sup> to 20 cm<sup>2</sup>, and wherein the first and second arrays are spaced-apart along a line between their respective centers by a distance in the range between 2 cm to 10 cm.

(Amended) A method as in any of claims 16-18 or 19, wherein the tissue volume between the first electrode array and the second electrode is in the range from 30 cm<sup>3</sup> to 150 cm<sup>3</sup>.

(Amended) A method as in any of claims 16-18 or 19, wherein said first electrode array includes a first axial conductor extending at least part of the way to the second array along the axis therebetween.

(Amended) A method for bipolar radiofrequency necrosis of tissue, said method comprising:

deploying a first array of electrodes in tissue on one side of a treatment region, wherein said first array has a concave face and an axial conductor extending in an axial direction from the concave face;

deploying a second array of electrodes in tissue on another side of the treatment region, wherein said second array has a concave face and an axial conductor extending in an axial direction opposed to the axial conductor on the first electrode array and wherein the concave face of the first array faces the concave face of the second array when the arrays are disposed, and

applying bipolar radiofrequency current to the tissue between the first and second electrode arrays.

(Amended) A probe for deploying electrode arrays, said probe comprising:

a shaft having a distal end and a proximal end;



**PATENT** 

ROBERT S. BEHL et al. Application No.: 09/663,048

Page 4

a first array of electrodes mounted on the shaft to shift between a retracted configuration and a deployed configuration having a concave face; and

a second array of electrodes mounted on the shaft at a location spaced-apart proximally from the first array of electrodes, wherein the second electrode array shifts between a retracted and a deployed configuration having a concave face;

wherein the first array is electrically isolated from the second array to permit the arrays to be connected to a power supply for bipolar operation and wherein the concave face of the first array faces the concave face of the second array when the arrays are deployed.

